Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—All those have been transferred to the Panchayat Department.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Are there wells which are accessible to all people at Palayannur ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—I have not got that file here. I think last year I explained everything about Palayannur.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—So now they are not under your Department ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—They have been transferred.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I have not received any complaint about that so far.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Are there wells which are open to all classes at Palayannur ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I am not sure.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Altogether there are 12 wells that are open to all classes in the State. That was the reply given to a question yesterday.

Transfer of the Assistant Engineers.

259. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state the special reasons for the latest transfer of the two Assistant Engineers ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The officers were long serving in the same place and it was thought desirable to transfer them.

Licenses for quarrying stone.

260. Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to inform the House:—

(1) the number of applications for license to quarry stone received by the Government in the year 1103 ;

(2) the time taken for the disposal of such petition in the ordinary course ;

(3) the object of the Government insisting upon such a license to quarry stone from private holding ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(1) 1,716 applications in all.

(2) 15 to 30 days approximately.

(3) To safeguard public interests and revenue which may be affected by promiscuous quarrying. The Member is also referred to the proceedings of the Council printed on pages 265-276 of Vol. III, Part IV and pages 321—341 of Vol. III, Part V.

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Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—May I know who is to grant the licenses, is it the Tahsildar or the Parvathiam ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I believe it is the Tahsildar.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—With reference to the answer to sub-division (3) is any revenue collected for granting licenses to quarry stone from private holdings?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—In some cases a small fee is levied.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—In which cases are fees collected ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—You can see it from *the Land Revenue Manual.*

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Is it for licenses for quarrying stone from *poromboke* lands ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Without notice I cannot give an answer. I may refer you to *the Land Revenue Manual* which gives all these details. If you refer also to the pages of the Council Proceedings given in the answer you can get the necessary information. There was a thorough discussion of the whole question, and that contains a good lot of information.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—No fee is collected for licenses for quarrying stone in *pandaravaka* lands, *i. e.*, Government lands. Am I to understand so?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—There is a praticular chapter dealing with this point. And further the answer gives the reasons also. 'To safeguard public interests and revenue which may be affected by promiscuous quarrying.' It is for those reasons that this system is in vogue.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—I want to know whether any revenue is actually collected for granting licenses.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Some fee is collected. The annual amount comes to Rs. 500 under all these heads. A small fee is collected not in all cases but in some cases only.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—As far as I understand, fee is collected for quarrying stone from *poramboke* lands. And if persons who are owners of *pandaravaka* lands hold the *pattah* for that, no fees are collected. In the latter case only a petition stamped with a one anna stamp is required.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—It may be so. I have said it all depends upon particular cases.

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Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—May I know whether any application for licenses has been refused during the last year?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I want notice.

The Girls' Lower Secondary School at Vadakkancheri.

261. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the Council Table a list showing (a) the number of girls on the rolls of the various classes of the Lower Secondary Department since its opening ;

(b) the number of female pupils on the rolls of the various forms of the Vadakkancheri High School for the last 10 education years ;

(c) why is the Primary Department of the Girls' school kept as a Vernacular school only ;

(d) how many male teachers have been appointed to the said school since its opening ;

(e) were these appointments made for want of female teachers to fill these posts ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai —(a) Vide answer to sub-division 2 of question No. 87 of the last Vrischigam Session of the Council.

(b) Vide answer to sub-division 1 of the question referred to in (a).

(c) Vide answer to sub-division 3 of the question referred to in (a).

(d) Six in the Lower Secondary Department and one in the Primary Department. Of these only two are working in the school now. One is intended for teaching Sanskrit, there being no separate Pandit in the school.

(e) Partly so.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—From the statistics given in answer to question No. 87 referred to here, it is seen that the strength in the Lower Secondary School at Vadakkancheri is sufficiently big to make it a High School. Have any suggestions been received by the Government to that effect ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—There was some representation.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know what it was and when?

President.—We gave to Chittur a Girls' High school and I think there is sufficient strength in the classes there.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether there is any prospect of Vadakkancheri getting a High school for girls in the near future?

President.—Why not give a **Girls' High** school to Vadakkancheri ?

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